

Translation

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference P610918/WO/1	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See Form PCT/IPEA/416
International application No. PCT/EP2004/003642	International filing date (day/month/year) 06.04.2004	Priority date (day/month/year) 08.04.2003
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC		
<p>Applicant EUROCOPTER DEUTSCHLAND GMBH</p>		

<p>1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of 6 sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p>3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:</p> <p>a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (<i>sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau</i>) a total of 5 sheets, as follows:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> (<i>sent to the International Bureau only</i>) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) _____, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).</p>																								
<p>4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <table> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. I</td> <td>Basis of the report</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. II</td> <td>Priority</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. III</td> <td>Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. IV</td> <td>Lack of unity of invention</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. V</td> <td>Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. VI</td> <td>Certain documents cited</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. VII</td> <td>Certain defects in the international application</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. VIII</td> <td>Certain observations on the international application</td> </tr> </table>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. I	Basis of the report	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. II	Priority	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. III	Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VI	Certain documents cited	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application
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Date of submission of the demand	Date of completion of this report
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/003642

Box No. I

Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:

international search (Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b))
 publication of the international application (Rule 12.4)
 international preliminary examination (Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3)

2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on (*replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report*):

the international application as originally filed/furnished
 the description:

pages 1-16 as originally filed/furnished

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

the claims:

nos. _____ as originally filed/furnished

nos.* 1-18 as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19

nos.* _____ received by this Authority on _____

nos.* _____ received by this Authority on _____

the drawings:

sheets 1/4-4/4 as originally filed/furnished

sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____

sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____

a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.

3. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

the description, pages _____
 the claims, nos. _____
 the drawings, sheets/figs _____
 the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
 any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

4. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

the description, pages _____
 the claims, nos. _____
 the drawings, sheets/figs _____
 the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
 any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.
PCT/EP2004/003642Box No. V **Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims <u>1-18</u>	YES
	Claims _____	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims <u>1-18</u>	YES
	Claims _____	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims <u>1-18</u>	YES
	Claims _____	NO

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

1. This report makes reference to the following document:

D1: US 2 757 745 A (FRANS VERHAGE GERARD ET AL), 7 August 1956 (1956-08-07)

2. Document D1, which is considered to represent the closest prior art, discloses a rotorcraft rotor and a process for adjusting the pitch of a rotor blade of such a rotorcraft rotor. The subjects of independent claims 1 and 14 differ therefrom in that the blade pitch adjustment device is not mounted on a bearing.

2.1 The subject matter of claim 1 is therefore novel (PCT Article 33(2)).

2.2 The present invention can therefore be considered to address the problem of achieving improved aerodynamic properties, a lower rotor weight and an adjustment of the rotor blade pitch as easy and effective as possible.

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Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
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2.3 The solution to this problem, as proposed in claim 1 of the present application, involves an inventive step (PCT Article 33(3)) for the following reasons:

although the use of rotor blade connections not mounted on a bearing and its advantages are well known to a person skilled in the art, it would not have been obvious to apply this solution, proceeding from the closest prior art (D1), since a number of modifications and additions to the rotorcraft rotor of D1 would have been necessary.

Claims 2-18 are dependent on claims 1 and 14 and thus also meet the PCT requirements for novelty and inventive step.

Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

The following observations on the clarity of the claims, description, and drawings or on the question whether the claims are fully supported by the description, are made:

3. The application does not meet the requirements of PCT Article 6 because the claims are unclear.

3.1 Claims 1 and 14 are unclear and do not meet the requirements of PCT Article 6 because the subject matter for which protection is sought is not clearly defined. The following functional indications do not enable a person skilled in the art to determine what technical features are necessary to carry out said functions:

Claim 1:

an integral blade pitch adjustment device controlled by centrifugal force and not mounted on a bearing.

Claim 14:

automatic adjustment of the blade pitch by rotating the rotor blade connection mounted on the side of the rotor head without a bearing.

Although blade pitch adjustment devices controlled by centrifugal force are already known to a person skilled in the art, the technical features necessary to obtain a blade pitch adjustment device controlled by centrifugal force and mounted without a bearing would not have been obvious (cf. 2.3).

3.2 The appendancies of claims 2-13 and 15-18 are

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Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

unclear, since several claims refer to features ("rotor blade connection arm(s)") which cannot be found in claims 1 and 14.